the pellagra rate among non-millworking females was approximately four times as high as that among millworking females, the rate for disabling sickness appeared distinctly higher in millworking than in non-millworking females. The disability indicated by the higher sickness rate among millworking females appeared not to influence materially the pellagra rate in this group."

A Study of the Relation of Factors of a Sanitary Character to Pellagra Incidence in Seven Cotton Mill Villages of South Carolina in 1916.—GOLDBERGER, WHEELER and SYDENSTRICKER (*Public Health Reports,* 1920, No. 29, xxxv, 1701) conclude the study of their problem as follows: "This study of the relation of factors of sanitary importance to the incidence of pellagra in seven representative mill villages has failed to reveal any consistent correlation between them. Although based on a rather small mass of data and, in itself, not warranting any conclusions, it may, nevertheless, be noted as not without significance that this result, at any rate, affords no support for the view until recently, at least, quite widely entertained in this country, that pellagra is 'an intestinal infection transmitted in much the same way as typhoid fever;' nor does the evidence adduced in favor of this view by other workers, when rightly considered, afford it any real support. It may be of interest to add that the results of the very much more extensive study of this subject carried on by us during 1917 and 1918, to be presented in a later communication, are in harmony with and confirm those here recorded."

Absorption of Cyanide Gas by Foodstuffs.—The Public Health Service (*Public Health Reports,* No. 27, xxxv, 1597) has had a series of experiments made to determine whether there is any danger of poisoning from the use of foodstuffs that have been exposed to cyanide gas in the process of fumigation for the destruction of vermin. The experiments were conducted by exposing bread and milk to the gas and then feeding the exposed food to mice, and, as a result of the tests, it was considered that the danger was "exceedingly remote."

Can the Mosquito Convey Infection from a Malaria Patient Undergoing Treatment? Does Sporogony Affect Mosquito Life?—MAYNE (*Public Health Reports,* No. 28, xxxv, 1664) reviews the evidence on this subject, which indicates that the gametocytes taken with the blood of a patient undergoing quinin treatment develop in the usual manner and that transmission to a new human host may occur. The infestation of the mosquito host does not appear to be prejudicial to the life of the insect; this is in contrast with the high mortality of mosquitoes infested with microfilarial parasites.

Utility of Antiplague Vaccines and Serums.—McCOY and CHAPIN (*Public Health Reports,* No. 28. xxxv, 1647) review the evidence of the value of biologic products in the prophylaxis and treatment of plague. The work of Haffkine and others is reviewed and the opinion is expressed that while vaccine is probably of some value it is not capable of controlling an outbreak of plague. The evidence on the prophylactic value of serum is not conclusive and the agent need not be seriously considered in this connection. The therapeutic use of serum is usually advantageous but brilliant results are seldom seen. The concluding paragraph of the paper is as follows: "It seems rather unfortunate to those who are called on for advice in connection with a plague outbreak to find that popular and professional interest is so frequently centered on the subject of prophylaxis by vaccines or serums and on treatment by serum when, in fact, the situation demands active measures against rodents. Under American conditions at least it is not a matter of much importance whether biological products are used in a prophylactic way or not. The health officer need give but little consideration to them in his plans to deal with an outbreak of bubonic plague. If people want to be vaccinated for prophylactic purposes there is no objection to complying, but the community should not be allowed to delude itself into the belief that plague may be controlled in this manner. The essential features of an antiplague campaign should be the extermination of rodents and not immunization by means of vaccines or serums."

Treatment of Leprosy, with Especial Reference to Some New Chaulmoogra Oil Derivatives.—McDonald and Dean (*Public Health Reports* No. 34, xxxv, 1959) take a most optimistic view of the prospects of cure in the treatment of leprosy by means of the ethyl esters of the fatty acids found in chaulmoogra oil. Their conclusions are as follows: (1) The intramuscular injection of the ethyl esters of the fatty acids of chaulmoogra oil usually leads to a rapid improvement in the clinical symptoms of leprosy. In many cases the lesions disappear, except for scars and permanent injuries, and the leprosy bacillus can no longer be demonstrated. (2) When combined with iodine, the fatty acids of chaulmoogre oil and their esters give good results; but there is no adequate experimental proof that this addition of iodine causes any increase in the effectiveness of the materials used. (3) All of the available evidence obtained from the use of fractions of the fatty acids of chaulmoogra oil indicates that the therapeutic action is due to one or more of the fatty acids of the oil or to some as yet unidentified substance associated therewith. The various methods of fractionation heretofore employed have failed to demonstrate the active agent. (4) Although conclusive evidence is not at hand, it is probable that the oral administration of chaulmoogra oil derivatives is of minor importance compared with the injections. (5) In treating leprosy, it is important to make use of all auxiliary agencies to build up and maintain bodily vigor. (6) Hypodermic injections of the ethyl esters into leprous nodules are followed by marked swelling with ultimate recession of the lesions. This is a valuable auxiliary treatment for especially resistant lesions.

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